

thereof mounted to the clip device, and another portion thereof mounted to the guide base. The apparatus is structured such that when the guide base moves along the fixed path between the first position and the second position, the one portion of the tether and the clip device move between a retracted condition and an extended condition. In the retracted condition, the guide base and the tether cooperate to position the tether along the fixed path, while in the extended condition, the clip device can be mounted to the user's clothing.

Page 5, lines 20-21, please amend the paragraph as follows:

FIGURE 5 is an enlarged, side elevation view, in cross section, of the sports cap and retractable tether apparatus ~~taken along the plane of the line 5-5 in of FIGURE 4.~~

Page 7, lines 18-27, please amend the paragraph as follows:

In one specific embodiment of the present invention, the mounting assembly 22 integrates smoothly within one of the reinforcement tapes strips. In this manner, the appearance is minimally altered from conventional cap structures, although such integration is not necessary for performance of the tether apparatus 20. More particularly, as best shown in FIGURES 3-5~~and yy~~, the guide portion 23 of the mounting assembly extends about the crown portion 30 from a back side of the cap portion 25 to a front side thereof, defining the fixed path along the crown portion. Since the mounting assembly is preferably mounted to an interior side of the cap portion 25, as opposed to an exterior side thereof, the retraction of the tether dangle during hat use will be even more apparent. Exterior mounting of the tether apparatus, however, is an option.

Page 7, line 29 through page 8, line 4, please amend the paragraph as follows:

A pull tab 37 is included that is mounted to the guide base 26 of the mounting assembly 22 to facilitate manual manipulation thereof between the first position and the second position. Moreover, as best illustrated in FIGURES 5 and 6, the first end ~~42~~ 48 of the tether 28 is mounted to the guide base 26, as well. Accordingly, as the guide base 26 is manually moved or pulled along the guide portion 23 of the mounting assembly between the first and second positions, the flexible tether 28 is drawn along the fixed path which in turn moves the clip device 27 between the extended (FIGURES 1 and 3) and retracted conditions (FIGURES 2, 4 and 5), respectively.

Page 10, lines 16-24, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The pull tab 37 or the like is included mounted to a lower bracket 47 of the zipper slider for manual manipulation of the zipper between the first position and the second position. Similarly, the first end 42 of the tether ribbon 28 is mounted to an upper bracket 48 of the zipper slider-26. As best viewed in FIGURES 5 and 6, the first end of the tether ribbon 28 extend over the upper bracket 48. This is advantageous in that the tether ribbon functions as a ramp portion to facilitate unobstructed passage of the zipper upper bracket 48 past the rivet 50 of the cap button 36 of hat 21.

Page 10, lines 25-29, please amend the paragraph as follows:

In this particular sample, when the ~~zipper slider~~ guide base 26 (e.g., zipper slider) is moved to the first position, retracting the tether into the pocket 41, the zipper mechanism is zipped or closed. In contrast, when the zipper slider-26 is moved to the